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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

Multinational Programming and Operational
Centre (ECA/MULPOC) for Eastern and
Southern African States

Seventh Meeting of the Committee of Officials

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

5-9 March 1984

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DRAFT REPORT

A. INTRODUCTION

The Seventh Meeting of the Committee of Officials of the Lusaka-based MULPOC for Eastern and Southern African States was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 5-9 March 1984.

2. It was a regular meeting convened in accordance with Resolution 311(XIII) of ECA Multinational Programming and Operational Centre (MULPOC) adopted by the Fourth Meeting of the ECA Conference of Ministers, held in March 1977, in Kinshasa, Zaire.

B. OPENING OF THE MEETING, ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Opening of the meeting

3. The meeting was formally opened at 16:00 hours on 5 March 1984 by Honourable Commade Wollie Chekol, Minister of Foreign Trade of Socialist Ethiopia shortly after the Executive Secretary of the ECA, Prof. Adebayo Adedeji had delivered a statement.

Attendance

4. The meeting was attended by the following member States of the Subregion: Angola, Botswana, Comoros, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Somalia, Swaziland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

5. The following Observers from the United Nations and its specialized Agencies, as well as other international organisations and liberation movements recognised by the UN also attended: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the International Labour Organization (ILO), International Trade Centre (ITC), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), the Eastern and Southern African Mineral Resources Development Centre, (ESAMRDC), the International Standing Committee on Shipping (ISCOS), the African National Congress (ANC), the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) and the South West African Peoples Organization (SWAPO).

Election of officers

6. The following representatives of the member States were elected as members of the bureau of the meeting:

Chairman	:	Dr. Shibabaw Yimenu	- Ethiopia
Vice-Chairman	:	Mr. Emang M. Maphanyane	- Botswana
Rapporteur	:	Mr. M.K. Tembo	- Zambia

Adoption of the agenda

7. Before the adoption of the Agenda one minute of silence was observed in remembrance of Mr. Arthur Blumeris, Executive Secretary of SADCC who had passed away on the 6 March 1984. The meeting adopted the following agenda as amended.

(a) Opening of the meeting
(b) Election of officers
(c) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
(d) Director's report
(e) Progress report on the implementation of the approved work programme and priorities during 1983/1984:
    (i) Transport and communications
    (ii) Industry
    (iii) Agriculture
    (iv) Human resources planning, development and utilization
    (v) Natural resources
    (vi) Trade promotion
    (vii) PADIS
    (viii) Special projects
(f) Lusaka MULPOC work programme 1984/1985
(g) Progress report of the Committee established by the Sixth Meeting of the Council of Ministers on the co-ordination of the activities of the PTA, SADCC and MULPOC
(h) Preparation of the 19th Session of ECA and Tenth ECA Conference of Ministers
(i) Any other business

(j) Council of Ministers Agenda

(k) Adoption of the Report

C. ACCOUNT OF PROCEEDINGS

8. In his statement, the Under-Secretary General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, Prof. Adebayo Adedeji thanked the respective Governments for making it possible to attend the meeting inspite of the short notice extended to them contrary to past practice and expressed regret at the inconveniences caused. He also expressed deep gratitude to the Government of Socialist Ethiopia for having so graciously consented at very short notice to host for the first time the Policy Organs Meetings of the Lusaka based MULPOC. The very presence of Hon. Minister Wollie Checkol at the opening ceremony was deemed as another testimony of Socialist Ethiopia's firm and well-known commitment to the objectives of economic co-operation and integration of the Eastern and Southern African Subregion.

9. He pointed out that the purpose of the meeting was to review the implementation of the work programme which the Council of Ministers adopted at its 6th Meeting held last year, in Mbabane, Swaziland, prepare recommendations for follow-up action arising therefrom and consider the Draft Work Programme for the period 1984/85 prior to its submission to the Ministers for approval.

10. He highlighted the salient points of the Agenda of the meeting and specifically drew attention of the meeting to the following sectors: agriculture, industry and natural resources. He emphasized the importance of the feasibility study for establishing a subregional Maize Research Centre for Eastern and Southern Africa as one of the most important projects in the subregion geared to arrest and reverse the importation of large quantities of maize. With regards to industry, he highlighted the prospects for implementation in the Industrial Development Decade for Africa and drew attention to a market study on the export potential for furniture and joinery from the Lusaka MULPOC Countries to the Gulf States and the Libyan Jamahiriya.

In the field of natural resources, he underlined the importance of water resources development in the wake of continuous drought in the subregion.

11. Finally, the delegates were requested to consider a paper prepared by the Secretaria on ways and means of rationalizing the operations of PTA, SADCC and the Lusaka-based MULPOC. He commended the activities of the Lusaka-based MULPOC and hoped that it would continue to respond to the challenges that lay ahead under the leadership of the new Director of the Lusaka-based MULPOC, Mr. Jama Rabileh, a former Minister of Planning of the Republic of Somalia and a distinguished economist.

12. In his opening speech Hon. Wollie Checkol, Minister of Foreign Trade of Socialist Ethiopia welcomed all the participants to Addis Ababa. After outlining the development problems currently facing the Eastern and Southern African Subregion, the Minister drew the attention of the meeting to areas of concern requiring fresh opportunities for mutual development. These were, inter-alia, trade, industry, agriculture, transport and communications, natural resources and manpower development.

13. In the field of trade promotion, he singled out the activities of the PTA, the establishment of a Clearing House, the proposal for a Trade and Development Bank for the PTA area and the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action in the field of trade and finance as vital projects for promoting intra-subregional trade and development. He called for action to be directed to the problems of drought and food crisis in the subregion.

14. Equal importance was drawn to the issue of industrial development in the subregion with special emphasis on engineering, iron and steel and chemical industries. Reference was also drawn to the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade with special attention to the problems of the landlocked and island countries in the subregion. The Minister also pointed out that institutionalization of subregional training and manpower planning was definitely an important ingredient of economic

and social development. The Distinguished Minister also stressed the importance of examining the implementation of the recommendation of the Regional Conference on the Development and Utilization of Mineral Resources in the Subregion.

15. Attention was further drawn to the importance of the assistance to Liberation Movements in South Africa and Namibia; the implementation of studies on economic sanctions against the apartheid regime in South Africa and a socio-economic survey for post apartheid South Africa; and lastly on studies on the special problems of women under apartheid as well as problems of refugees.

16. In conclusion the Honourable Minister stressed the need for rationalization and coordination of the operations of PTA and MULPOC in order to maximize the scarce resources of the subregion, congratulated the new Director of the Lusaka-based MULPOC on his appointment and pledged the support of the Government of Socialist Ethiopia.

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Progress Report on ECA activities in the field of Inland Water Transport (Agenda Item 5 I(a)

17. A representative of the secretariat introduced document ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka/VII/4(a) and pointed out that inland water transport activities undertaken or encouraged by the Secretariat with respect to Lusaka MULPOC countries were based on a strategy for the development of inland navigation in Africa. Briefly, this strategy consisted of the following four main areas:

- manpower training;
- the establishment of joint operating bodies for inland water courses;
- the adaptation of inland watercourses for inland navigation;
- the up-grading and standardization of inland water transport equipment.

18. As far as training is concerned, ECA has followed the main recommendations of the preliminary study undertaken with UNDP funding (project RAF 80/002, on the evaluation of African inland water transport personnel). In so far as the recommendation for the training of inland navigation staff is concerned there is need to recognize the existing training centres and set-up a multinational training centre for high-level staff at the national and subregional level. This approach requires more detailed studies to be made, and will take some time to put into effect. ECA is currently taking the necessary steps to conduct the studies. There is also the need to immediately organize crash training courses for current staff, so as to deal with the most pressing problems. The first such course was held in Leningrad in 1982 with UNDP assistance. In the light of the recommendations by the last Conference of Ministers of the Lusaka MULPOC, ECA is taking the necessary steps to organize a second course of this kind by 1985.

19. The policy of trying to set-up joint operating bodies for watercourses is just important as training. But its implementation depends on the expression

by the States concerned of a determination to pool their water resources. ECA may become involved, later, in helping these States carry out the project, as it has already done with more than one catchment basin in the subregion (Tanganyika - Kivu and Congo - Zaire).

29. The development of inland navigation makes it necessary to up-grade such elements of infrastructure as navigable waters and ports. Studies on this, including the inland water transport system, are being conducted by ECA in the Lusaka MULPOC subregion. Similarly, ECA is taking part in a study on the development of inland water transport in Ethiopia.

21. As for equipment, it has generally been remarked that in most African States this is obsolete and inadequate. Studies must therefore be conducted on how to up-grade it. The preliminary study was done on the Zambezi, and a more detailed one has been prepared for launching as soon as the funds are available.

22. In the ensuing discussion, the Committee expressed concern at the seemingly never ending stream of indepth studies that the ECA continued to execute in the field of inland water transport. It was high time that studies so far carried out were translated into concrete projects. The Committee directed that at its next meeting, the secretariat should provide detailed information on actual programmes so far implemented in the subregion in the field of inland water transport.

23. The meeting noted the report.

Progress Report on ECA activities in the field of ports (agenda item 5 I(b)

24. A representative of the ECA Secretariat introduced document (ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka/VII/4(b) and pointed out the importance of ports for development in Africa. He indicated that the majority of African external trade (90%) is carried out by sea and the increased port costs, both direct and indirect, due to added shipping costs and indirect of interruptions to cargo flows, especially those destinated to the land locked countries of the subregion, tended to cause commercial problems to national economies.

25. He pointed out that it is very difficult to measure the full economic and social consequences and how much seaborne trade had not been generated because of the extreme costs and delays. Increased port efficiency is an important key to reducing total transportation costs if stimulation of African maritime transport and African external trade is to be effected. He highlighted the activities of ECA in the field of ports and pointed out that in this respect ECA has carried out the following activities:

- Training of African port personnel;
- Modernization and harmonization of port statistics and the introduction of performance indicators in Eastern and Southern African ports;
- Technical assistance for the introduction of universal procedures of control of foreign vessels in African ports.

26. As regards the training of port personnel, the 9th Council Meeting of the Port Management Association of Eastern and Southern Africa which took place in Djibouti in November 1981, formed a sub-committee on training. As a result of this sub-committee's activities, it was decided that a joint ECA/PMASEA mission be mounted in August 1983 covering 11 countries of the subregion. The main conclusions and recommendations of this mission are given in the paper

ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka/VII/v(e);ECA Secretariat is now preparing a seminar and study tour for experts from Africa on Port Operations and Administration Problems which is scheduled from 23 July to 5 August 1984 in Leningrad, USSR. The Committee was urged to take note of this Seminar and each member State was invited to appoint two port experts of medium level to attend the above Seminar. All necessary application forms should reach the Director of Transport, Communications and Tourism Division by the 10th of May.

27. The ECA secretariat briefed the meeting on the inception and progress of modernization and harmonization of ports statistics and the introduction of performance indicators in Eastern and Southern African ports. It was pointed out that from March to July 1983 a number of missions to assist the ports of Eastern and Southern Africa in the introduction of the proposed scheme and in processing the collected statistical information, were undertaken. These missions were made to the following ports of the subregion which had requested for assistance: Port Sudan (Sudan), Port Assab (Ethiopia), Djibouti (Djibouti), Mombasa (Kenya), Tamatave and Antananarivo (Madagascar), Port Victoria (Seychelles), and Port Louis (Mauritius).

28. During these missions it was discovered that in general the new informal statistical scheme was working well and as a result of its introduction, some improvements had been effected in the planning and co-ordination of port activities. It was however found in most ports visited that the recruitment of a special statistical clerk was advisable to allow more timely completion of the forms and to provide continuity in the absence of the chief accountant. Finally, ECA, in collaboration with UNCTAD, were planning to undertake further visits to some ports to appraise and verify data accuracy.

29. As regards technical assistance for the introduction of universal procedures of control of foreign vessels in African ports, the Secretariat briefed the meeting on the problem of control of foreign vessels in ports and pointed out that the main objectives of the requirements of numerous international conventions adopted to this effect and the right of States of ports of call to carry out control of foreign ships, was to ensure that ships comply, at all times, with maritime safety and population standards prescribed by relevant international conventions.

30. The Secretariat further pointed out that, in order to assist member States in introducing the control of foreign ships in African ports in conformity with the universally accepted provisions of the relevant conventions, ECA has prepared a paper "Control of foreign vessels in ports:procedures and legal implications" at the request of the Port Management Association of Eastern and Southern Africa..

31. The meeting noted the report.

Progress Report on ECA activities in roads and road transport (Item 5 I(c))

32/ The representative of the secretariat briefly introduced the activities undertaken by ECA in the field of road transport in the Lusaka MULPOC subregion (ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka/VII/4(c)).

33. The main points covered were: the establishment of the East Trans-African Road Authority: Cairo-Gaborone Trans-East African Highway; the establishment of an Inter-State Committee to deal with non-physical obstacles on the Cairo-Gaborone road; feasibility study on the Cairo-Gaborone road using bilateral assistance; master plan of Trans-African roads and its implementation; road maintenance in Africa and the various related conferences; and road safety and the Highway Code Congress scheduled for Nairobi in August 1984.

34. During the discussion on the above subjects, delegates wondered about the need for a feasibility study on the Cairo-Gaborone Trans-East African Highway, in the light of the fact that many countries had already constructed their segments of the Highway. Doubts were expressed about the advisability of giving priority to road maintenance projects as against construction of new roads.

35. The secretariat replied that the feasibility study on the Cairo-Gaborone Trans-East African Highway was concerned only with segments on which no feasibility study had yet been conducted, and that the maintenance programme would involve the training of qualified manpower. It was, however, up to Governments to set priorities between construction and maintenance projects.

36. As regards the ECA Handbook on Road Maintenance, it was agreed that this Handbook should be distributed to all countries and Highway agencies throughout the Region, regardless of the official languages they use. The secretariat took note of this proposal and undertook effect it.

37. The secretariat was also requested to make available a map of the Trans-East African Highway so as to give an overview of construction progress of the Cairo-Gaborone Highway.

38. The meeting took note of this report.

Report on the Implementation of the first phase of the Decade programme (agenda item 5 I (i)

38. A representative of the ECA secretariat presented the document ECA/MULPOC TCTD/GEN. describing the implementation effort of the first phase of the Decade Programme by briefly citing the number of projects and their costs and the resources that were mobilized.

39. He pointed out that by the end of the first phase (December 1983) there were 1,091 projects estimated at US$15.44 billion of these projects, 779 were for transport and 312 for communications estimated at US$14.33 billion and US$1.11 billion respectively.

40. With respect to the mobilization of funds for implementation consultative meetings had been held pursuant to resolution 391(XV) and 422(XVI) adopted by the ECA Conference of Ministers excluding the pledging conference of 1979. Funds for organizing those meetings had been provided by the United Nations General Assembly The four technical consultative meetings had been held in Lome on roads, communications and air transport projects for West African countries, in Ouagadougou on railways for the region as a whole, in Yaounde on roads and inland water transport for Central African countries;and in Abidjan on Maritime transport and ports for the member countries of CMEAOC. Those technical consultative meetings, besides helping ECA in the up-dating process of the Decade Programme, had helped Zaire with US$940 million and had opened up prospects for financing of other projects of the Decade Programme.

41. A total of $ 7 billion financing had been secured for the implementation of the first phase programme. Seventy five per cent of this amount was from African Governments which illustrates their determination to be self-reliant. Only twenty five per cent was contributed by donors and financial institutions.

42. Thus, as can be seen from the summary of Progress in implementation of the first phase programme, it can be considered to have had a notable degree of success.

43. However, this did not reflect the / complete picture of efforts undertaken during the first phase programme, mainly because some Governments had not furnished further information to the secretariat. This fact underscored the difficulty facing ECA in soliciting information from member States. Although ECA had earlier requested countries to

appoint liaison officers with whom ECA could deal directly, the system had not been very successful. The offices of UNDP resident representatives were now being sought for information gathering which would assist ECA to report more accurately in the future on the physical execution of the Decade Programme.

44/ Finally, it was observed that information on the status of financing of the project was expected to reach the secretariat by the end of December 1983 or early January 1984 to facilitate the secretariat in preparing an analysis showing the status of financing of individual projects for each MULPOC. Since this was not the case, this analysis would be prepared during the first half of 1984 and issued separately.

45. As regards the second phase programme of the Decade it was reported that this had been adopted at Conakry in February 1983 by the fourth ECA Conference of Ministers of Transport, Communication and Planning. The programme as adopted consists of 1022 projects amounting to US$ 18.3 billion, broken down as follows:

(i) Transport: 566 projects costing US$44.3 billion of which 5.1 billion had been or was about to be acquired;

(ii) Communication: 456 projects costing US$3.97 billion of which 1.69 billion had been or was about to be acquired.

46. The documents of the second phase programme were being put into final forms by the ECA secretariat for distribution to member States.

47. The Kenyan delegate enquired about the problems of implementation concerning sattelite communications and if the two projects referred to were national or continental. The Secretariat explained that the project was continental. With regard to its implementation, it was reported that funding of the project was still a constraint.

48. The document was noted.

II. INDUSTRY

Industrial Development Decade for Africa : Identification of priority multinational projects for implementation of the IDDA (Agenda Item 5 II (a)

49. A representative of the secretariat introduced the documents ID/WG.403/3 entitled "Initial Integrated Industrial Promotion for the Eastern and Southern Africa" and ECA/MULPOC/LUSAKA/VII/5/III(a) entitled "The Final Report of the Subregional Meeting on the Promotion of Intra-African Industrial Co-operation within the Framework of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa" held in Addis Ababa, 22 - 26 November 1983. The documents covered the projects selected by individual governments and intergovernmental organizations for implementation during the 1985 - 1990 phase of the Decade. The projects had been chosen on the basis of criteria developed by the secretariats of ECA, UNIDO and OAU in the light of the recommendations made by the Seventh Follow-up Committee on Industrialization in Africa held in Kigali in March 1983.

50. The Committee adopted the programme recommended by the subregional expert meeting held in Addis Ababa 22 - 26 November 1983 for the Eastern/Southern Africa for implementation during 1985 - 1990. The adopted subregional programme for the Decade is to be reviewed regularly by the Lusaka MULPOC and includes projects on metallurgical, engineering, chemical and building material industries and industrial supports. Among the countries which were the principal promoters of sperific projects are : Angola, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Kenya, Mauritius, Madagascar, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

51. The meeting agreed that subsequent activities should be directed to consultations and negotiations among the member States to agree on specific modalities for co-operation as well as actual investment promotion. At the national level the activities include the endorsement of the programme and incorporation of the salient features of the programme in national plans, and support and strengthening of corporate structures directly responsible for investment. At the subregional level, follow-up activities include mobilization of financial resources; agreement on specific project promoters and determining the roles of such promoters; involvement of the chambers of commerce and manufacturers and financial institutions in investment promotion; and agreement on the role of foreign investment from both developing and developed countries.

52. In order to finance technical consultations, negotiations and investment promotion, the meeting agreed on the need to urge UNDP and the United Nations General Assembly to allocate modest resources to finance these activities during 1985.

53. The meeting noted the report.

Report on the development of iron and steel and engineering industries in the Eastern and Southern African subregion (Agenda item 5 II (b) (i) and (ii)

54. In introducing document E/ECA/INR/6 on the second meeting of the Eastern and Southern African Steel Development Committee; and the second meeting of the Inter-Governmental Committee of Experts on Engineering Industries for Eastern and Southern Africa (24-28 October 1983, Addis Ababa), a member of the ECA secretariat informed the meeting that critical information was not forthcoming from member States. This was discussed by the joint meeting, which, recognizing the seriousness of the situation, urged member States to provide ECA with the information requested.

55. In view of the then impending subregional meeting on the Promotion of Intra-African Industrial Co-operation within the Framework of the Industrial Development Decade for Africa scheduled for December 1983, the joint meeting focussed its attention on identifying and classifying multinational industrial projects into first and second categories. This exercise facilitated the work of the subregional meeting on the Decade.

56. He then briefed the meeting on the recommendations made on modalities for co-operation related to multinational projects that have reached the implementation stage. These include the holding of a consultation meeting; signing of a protocol; and a negotiating meeting to make a final decision on participation by interested member States, African financial institutions and other interested parties, including those from the more advanced developing countries. Another important recommendation relates to the use of loans from funds reserved for multi-country projects by the African Development Bank (ADB)as equity in multinational industrial projects.

57. Finally, he drew the attention of the meeting to the urgent need to take quick, decisive and practical actions on Zimbabwe's ZISCOSTEEL.

58. During the discussion, the Zimbabwe delegate confirmed the existence of the problem relating to provision of information and appealed for urgent response from member States. He allayed the apprehensions of some delegates regarding the ownership of ZISCOSTEEL by informing the meeting that the Zimbabwe Government owned majority shares in ZISCOSTEEL. He added that shareholding by member States was in line with the objective of self-sufficiency and the spirit of industrialization in the subregion.

59. The meeting urged member States to provide Zimbabwe with the information required to enable it plan and implement the rehabilitation, expansion and diversification of ZISCOSTEEL. At the same time the meeting requested Zimbabwe to take the initiative and approach member States with a view to promoting exports of ZISCOSTEEL products and collecting the required information.

60. The meeting adopted the report.

Report of the Third Meeting on Inter-governmental Committee of Experts on Chemicals for Eastern and Southern Africa (18-20 October 1983, Addis Ababa) - Agenda item 5 II(c)

61. A representative of the Secretariat introduced the above report (E/ECA/INR/5.) He informed the meeting that, inspite of attempts made to assist member States in completing the questionnaires through consultant visits to member States and subsequent follow-up by the same consultant from the Lusaka MULPOC Office, the responses had been poor. As a result, the Secretariat could not come out with proposals on pesticides and pharmaceuticals.

62. With regard to the focus of the meeting and the recommendations on modalities for co-operation in the implementation of multinational projects, he indicated that what he had said in introducing agenda item 5.II(b) also applied to the report under consideration. He reminded the meeting of the urgent necessity for member States to take immediate action with a view to participation in Tanzania's ammonia/urea complex. In this connection,he called the attention of the meeting to the possibility of minimizing financial constraints by using loans from ADB funds earmarked for multi-country projects.

63. In the discussion that followed delegates expressed disappointment at the lack of progress made in the chemical sub-section. They also questioned the appropriateness of the questionnaire method of collecting information and of preparing studies. Because of differences in technical terminologies, member States had experienced difficulty in completing the questionnaire. The Secretariat was therefore requested to repeat its attempts at assisting member States in completing the questionnaire on chemicals as well as that on iron and steel.

64. The Secretariat explained that the questionnaire which was sent out to member States in 1981 and mainly meant to collect consumption related information was followed-up by consultant visits to a number of member States in 1982 and 1983 with a view to advising the officials concerned where and how to collect and compile the information required on pesticides and pharmaceuticals.

65. The information was needed in order to enable ECA to recommend to member States which pesticides and pharmaceuticals could be the subject of preliminary or pre-feasibility studies. The poor response to all these attempts explains the lack of progress in pesticides and pharmaceuticals. It was pointed out that assistance could be provided to member States in completing the questionnaires if adequate resources were made available to the Secretariat.

66. Doubts were expressed about the appropriateness of the proposal on equity share holding, especially since the benefits to be derived by a particular country from a project were difficult to assess in advance.

67. The attention of the meeting was however drawn to the fact that benefits could be determined if the member States interested in the project were to adopt the recommendations on modalities for co-operation made by the experts, i.e consultation meeting followed by signing of protocol and then by a negotiating meeting. At the negotiating meeting stage each member State should have all the information it needs to determine the benefits that will accrue to it.

68. The meeting noted the report with a request that field visits be undertaken by the secretariat aimed at assisting member States in responding to the questionnaires.

Progress report on the implementation of Resolution I (ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka/VII/5) on funding the conversion of Serere Research Station into a subregional Centre for Research and Development of Composite flours from Sorghum, Millet and other Cereals and Cassava (Agenda Item 5 II (c)(i)(d))

69. In introducing the report the Secretariat recalled that the Sixth Meeting of the Council of Ministers had requested that external funds (US $ 1.1 million) be mobilized to finance the conversion of Serere Station into a subregional Institution for research, demonstration and development of composite flours from sorghum, millet and other cereals and cassava. Following this request, a project proposal was submitted to Afro-arab cooperation funds for consideration and finance, in June 1983. Response is awaited. In order to expedite activities related to the conversion of the Centre, it is suggested that member States, in line with the Resolution adopted in 1983, show their interests by taking some financial obligations while ECA should intensify its activities of mobilizing external funds.

70. During the discussion, several points were raised. The Kenyan Delegate informed the meeting that Kenya Industrial Research and Development Institute (KIRDI) which has already done a lot of research in the field of composite flours can train experts from other countries and make available recipes for composite flour production and utilization. Concerning the activities of the Serere Subregional Centre it was noted that most of the research that the Centre is expected to carry out has already been done elsewhere particularly in the Food Research Centre of Khartoum for sorghum, in the Food Technology Institute of Dakar for millet, in the Tropical Technology Institute of Abidjan for cassava and maize and also in KIRDI, in Nairobi. The meeting agreed however that the project relating to the conversion of Serere Station into a subregional institution having arisen from a ministerial decision and should therefore remain as a MULPOC project.

71. The Secretariat took the opportunity to inform the meeting that the Technical Compendium on composite flours will be made available to member States in 1984.

72. The meeting requested to know the justification for the conversion of Serere Research Centre into a subregional institution, since there were a number of other Centres engaged in the same activities. The meeting wondered whether it was not possible to coordinate the activities of the existing institutions. The meeting took note of the report.

Progress Report on Marketing Study for the Promotion of Wooden Furniture Exports from Eastern and Southern Africa

(Agenda Item 5 II (e))

73. In introducing the report a representative of the Secretariat outlined the origin of the project and briefed the meeting on its progress. The project had originally been expected to be implemented on a sub-contracting basis and to carry out the following activities :

(a) supply-side survey in the countries of the Lusaka MULPOC Sub-region already engaged, to some extent, in furniture export activities (carried out in 1982 as planned);

(b) consumer-side survey of the Gulf States and Libya (carried out in 1983 as planned);

(c) based on the above, provide recommendations on steps to be taken to develop the furniture export potential.

74. Because of the prominent marketing nature of the study, ITC had been asked to implement the project. However, ITC could not succeed in securing the necessary project funds (US $ 68,000). Finally, an arrangement was worked out for the FAO/ECA/UNIDO Forest Industries Advisory Group (FIAG) to carry out the study out of its own funds with the participation of the ECA's Africa Trade Centre.

75. With both the supply and consumer-side of the project now completed, a FIAG/AT mission is now scheduled to undertake a four-week mission to five countries in the Subregion to present the findings of the consumer-side mission and discuss details of a practical follow-up programme.

76. Following the presentation of the report, the Committee expressed disappointme at the fact that no country representative had been included from the consumer-side. The Secretariat was urged to take all necessary steps to speed up the conclusion of the project in terms of practical results.

77. While expressing some appreciation for the work already done, the Committee requested the Secretariat to analyse the obstacles facing African wooden furniture exports in the Gulf, and to take concrete steps to assist member States in improving the furniture industry of the sub-region with a view to make them competitive.

Progress Report on reformulation of buildings codes and regulations (Agenda Item 5 II (f))

78. In presenting the document ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka/VII/5(iii)(f), a member of the secretariat recalled the importance attached to the reformulation of the prevailing codes and regulations from the point of view of promoting local building services, technologies and materials and reducing the construction costs, as well as minimizing the current dependence on imported building materials and services. The last meeting of the MULPOC had approved the Secretariat's proposals for the reformulation and had asked the Secretariat to design a model code on desired lines and finalize it at an expert group meeting for adoption by the government.

79. This work was to be undertaken within the framework of the UNDP-financed ECA-executed Building materials and construction industries development programme (which was extra-budgetary). As things turned out, however, the programme faced termination due to lack of funds. Nevertheless, in the light of the resolution passed at the last meeting, an effort was made to secure required funds for carrying out the work but this was unsuccessful. Neither UNDP nor ECA could make the funds available. In view of this impasse, the document under consideration has posed a suggestion whether some of the member States of the MULPOC collectively or individually could assist in sponsoring the project activity with required support of funds (US$72,000 for both phases).

80. In the discussion which followed, several delegates drew attention to the crucial significance of the reformulation and the proposed activity and expressed their serious concern and disappointment that the work had been held up for want of funds and that considerable time has already been lost. They strongly felt that it should have been possible to carry out the work within ECA's resources and to have developed a model by now. Some countries have already started taking steps to change the codes and regulations and could have benefited from the ECA work. It was felt that ECA could, on the basis of available data, compile and

circulate information on the codes in use and the changes that have been effected or about to be made in various countries. It was proposed that ECA should organize a seminar on the subject.

81. The meeting was of the view that if work in this area was being carried out in Africa by any other organization, ECA should make use of some of that output for the proposed project activity and for bringing out a compilation of information on the existing codes and regulations. If this was possible, the funds constraint would be minimized.

82. It was explained by the secretariat that UNCHS (Habitat) and ECA had a joint regional perspective on the subject and were working together. UNCHS was interested in the outcome of the proposed work in the subregion but, for the work in view, ECA had to raise its own resources, in the absence of any offers of funds.

83. In reply to a query as to why the work could not be done in the normal course by the ECA staff if they were distinct from consultants, it was explained by the secretariat that the expert staff was being phased out very soon since they were based on UNDP funding for the entire programme of building materials and construction industries development and ECA had no other experts in this field under its regular budget provisions.

84. The Committee felt that, under these circumstances, ECA must make a further determined effort in terms of the specific recommendation made at the last MULPOC meeting that ECA should continue the programme beyond December 1984 instead of December 1983 as then specified.

85. A representative of the secretariat, taking note of the strength of the feelings expressed by the Committee of this matter assured them that ECA attached great importance to the work of reformulation of codes and regulations and shared their concern for the successful completion of the work. The discussion had clarified beyond dobut the crucial value of the work and highlighted the necessity for ECA assistance. The unanimity of views expressed at the meeting on this matter would be brought to the attention of the Executive Secretary so that a special effort can be made to ensure that the work is done.

III. AGRICULTURE

Feasibility Study for Establishing a Subregional Maize Research Centre for Eastern and Southern Africa (Agenda Item 5 III (a)

86. A member of the secretariat introduced the document entitled: "Feasibility Study for a Subregional Maize Research Programme for Eastern and Southern Africa". The Committee also had before it the report of the Expert Consultation for Establishing a Subregional Maize Research Centre for Eastern and Southern Africa held in Lusaka, Zambia. In his introduction the representative of the secretariat retraced the origin and conduct of the study. He indicated that the study was a response to the request of the Council of Ministers of Lusaka-based MULPOC at its meeting held in Gaborone, Botswana in January 1980.

87. It was noted that the revision prepared by IITA on the request of the Expert Consultation was discussed by the ECA/FAO Joint Division, FAO Technical Divisions, IITA and CIMMYT at a meeting in Rome during October/November 1983 and certain modifications were made to strengthen the report.

88. The Committee was informed that ECA, in co-operation with FAO, realizing the importance of maize to the subregion and the need to provide a document which would assist the committee and the Council of Ministers to reach a rational decision on the matter, undertook to re-write the report in order to reflect more vividly the relevance of the proposed programme and include other feasible organizational structures and approaches that could alleviate the major constraints responsible for the chronic low yieldsin maize among small-farmers in the subregion.

89. In the introduction the importance of maize in the diet of the population of the subregion was stressed. It was indicated that the subregion ranks second only to Central America, original home of maize, in per capita consumption (75 kg/person/year). In terms of area under maize it was stated that 45 per cent of the area under maize on the African continent is found in the Lusaka MULPOC subregion. The secretariat further stated that inspite of the importance of maize as a staple food, the yield has remained stagnant at 1 ton/ha. for the last two decades which is a mere 16 per cent of the yield of maize in developed countries. It was also mentioned that, while having high potential (6 tons/ha) for increasing production, the sub-region is now a net importer of maize and if the trend is not reversed by the year 2000 annual imports could reach 3 million tons or half a billion United States Dollars (in 1976 prices). Hence the need for a maize research programme which would enhance the productivity of maize.

90. He further stated that, with the exception of Kenya and Zimbabwe, maize research and improvement programmes are presently inadequate. The need for a centre had been expressed on various occasions by the Council of Ministers and has been reinforced by an expert consultation held in Lusaka, Zambia from 22 - 26 August 1983 in accordance with the wish of the sixth Meeting of the Council of Ministers of the MULPOC at its meeting in Mbabane, Kingdom of Swaziland.

91. The representative of the secretariat went on to outline the proposal recommending three alternatives. The discussion which ensued centred mainly around the three alternative recommendations and their resource implications. The three alternatives were:

92. Alternative 1: A single centralized research institute which would have strong maize breeding and training programmes and scientific staff of 18 scientists at the centre and two outposted scientists to undertake breeding work for low and high altitude ecologies.

93. Alternative 2: A network concept which would involve a small co-ordinating centre with four scientists, sufficient to give some support and provide training to national programmes. The main new development would be 20 scientists located in national programmes to work on production agronomy and technology transfer to small scale farmers.

94. Alternative 3: This combines the best features of alternatives 1 and 2. It includes a co-ordinating centre combined with satellite projects undertaken by national programmes.

95. After a thorough discussion of the report and in particular the three alternatives, the committee emphasized the need for a co-ordinating mechanism in maize research in the subregion. In this connection the committee welcomed the ECA/FAO initiative and noted with appreciation the high quality of the document prepared by the secretariat. Taking into account the current economic situation in the subregion and the need for a programme which would have immediate impact on small farmers and strengthen national research capabilities in this field, the Committee unanimously decided to endorse the network concept and recommended that the co-ordination office be located at the Lusaka MULPOC Headquarters.

(b) Progress report on the implementation of the Regional food plan for Africa (AFPLAN) (Agenda item 5 III (b))

(i) Monitoring the implementation of AFPLAN at country and subregional levels (Agenda Item 5 III(b)(i))

96. In introducing the subject on monitoring the implementation of AFPLAN, a representative of the Secretariat stated that the report covers both the Lagos Plan of Action (LPA) and AFPLAN. Both plans aimed at achieving food self-sufficiency in the African region with a view to reducing the continent's growing food import dependency, combating hunger and alleviating malnutrition. The Secretariat recognised that, in monitoring the implementation of this objective, many countries have made strenuous efforts, but the information on what is happening at the country level with regard to this implementation was quite inadequate. On the whole, however, the majority of countries of the subregion appeared not to have managed to keep the pace of food production ahead of population growth. Where success has been made in the improvement of food and agricultural production, it has been as a result of sustained efforts and favourable policies and decisive actions taken by governments and implemented at the farm level. This demonstrates in a very stark manner that agriculture can prosper only in a favourable policy environment.

97. It was further stated that the slowness on the part of many countries to implement LPA/AFPLAN objectives has further been aggravated by inadequate monitoring of these efforts at the country level. Countries are yet to comply fully with the requirement of LPA for countries to report regularly to OAU, ECA and FAO on progress, problems and prospects at the country level. The LPA requirement for strategy review missions aimed at monitoring implementation progress by countries, has also not been undertaken as expected.

98. At the subregional level where there was more information on the activities being undertaken, current efforts include inter-country harmonizing and co-ordination of food security programmes and policies among the PTA and SADCC member countries, the feasibility study on subregional maize research and distribution centre for

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Eastern and Southern African countries, and a subregional project analysis training course. Other programmes and projects include multinational co-operation in livestock disease control and other various programmes such as lake/river development programmes and projects.

99. In the course of the ensuing discussions it was pointed out that manpower was a major constraint in the implementation and monitoring of LPA/AFPLAN and this problem also made it difficult for countries to meet ECA's request to supply the needed information. There was therefore a gread need for more training in the implementation and monitoring in the food and agriculture sector. It was also learnt during the discussions that some countries drew up their national development plans independently from the objectives of LPA/AFPLAN and reporting as provided for in LPA was therefore not taken into account.

100. In conclusion the committee agreed on the following measures:

(a) Countries should make extra efforts, pursuant to the decision of the Sixth Ministerial Meeting to set up their national and subregional mechanisms to monitor progress of implementation of LPA/AFPLAN and supply progress reports to OAU, ECA and FAO as provided in the LPA.

(b) Since the chapter on agriculture on the LPA only covers the period 1980-85, countries should assess the achievement made during this period and give guidelines for the 1986-1990 plan period.

(c) Countries should initiate and strengthen strategy review missions.

(d) The monitoring of LPA/AFPLAN should also include the monitoring of drought and desertification in the subregion.

(ii) Food Waste and Losses Reduction - East and Southern African Subregion (Agenda Item 5 III(b)(ii)

101. A representative of the Secretariat introduced the document entitled "Food Waste and Losses Reduction - East and Southern African Subregion". He indicated that the project resulted from resolution No. 3362(S-VII) of the Seventh Session of the General Assembly adopted in 1975 which stated that post-harvest food losses in developing countries should be reduced by 50 per cent by 1985. He

also indicated that in 1977, the Nineteenth Session of the FAO Conference had approved the Director-General's proposal to establish an Action Programme for the Prevention of Food Losses. As a follow-up to the resolution, in 1976, the Economic Commission for Africa organized an expert consultation on "Increasing food availability through waste reduction" held in Monrovia (Liberia) for Western African countries. A similar meeting was also held in 1982, in Lusaka (Zambia) in conjunction with the first meeting of the PTA Agriculture Technical Committee.

102. These studies have also been in response to the Lagos Plan of Action (LPA) which indicated that, "The objective should be to make significant progress towards the achievement of a 50 per cent of reduction of post-harvest losses during the plan period".

103. The LPA's recommendations include:

(a) Careful assessment of the extent of food losses;

(b) Formulation of national policies for food losses reduction;

(c) Mass media campaigns to educate the public on methods of reducing food waste;

(d) Construction of appropriate storage processing and other facilities; etc.

104. It was further reported that, apart from the meetings on food losses which were held for the west and east and southern Africa, in 1982, ECA held an inter-agency workshop on the prevention of food losses and encroachment on arable land at which various recommendations were made. It is gratifying that member States are taking appropriate measures to redress this problem though a lot of work remains to be done.

105. The meeting was informed that, as a follow-up action, ECA has plans to organize more workshop(s) on food waste reduction in each of the five African subregions. The member States are requested to regularly inform ECA on activities at the country level, in particular with respect to data on this subject.

106. During the discussions, it was pointed out that in future, ECA should not separate post-harvest food losses from the other losses occurring in the field (pre-harvest losses). It was therefore suggested that MULPOC should set up a mechanism to co-ordinate all activities related to food waste reduction (pre-harvest and post-harvest losses) occurring in the subregion.

(iii) Improvement of agricultural marketing institutions for food crops and livestock production by small scale farmers (Agenda Item 5 III(b)(iii))

107. A representative of the Secretariat informed the meeting that this project was started by ECA in November 1979. The emphasis was on small farmers because these remain the producers of the bulk of food in Africa. Yet, appropriate marketing institutions and other incentive marketing systems have not been adequately evolved for this sub-sector. Both physical and economic incentives are essential if the sub-region is to increase food and agricultural surplus from the subsistance sector.

108. The Secretariat informed the meeting that because of financial constraints and lack of funding from the donor, the project had to be terminated in mid-1982. However, as far as the Lusaka MULPOC was concerned, this project has been in its programme of work since 1980, and continue to be retained.

109. After a brief discussion, it was agreed that the MULPOC should retain the project in its work programme for 1984-85 and seek assistance from all possible sources for its implementation.

iv. Agricultural Pricing Policies in Africa (Agenda item 5 III(b)(iv)

110. In presenting the report a representative of the secretariat pointed out that the reason for low growth of food production in Africa are various and complex. There are indications, however, that insufficient acreage cultivation arising from poor and unattractive prices and other incentives for food items had been among the leading ones. He referred to the Lagos Plan of Action (LPA) which strongly recommended that "member States formulate and apply effective and coherent policies to ensure that prices of farm input and farm produce provide an adequate incentive for increasing food production particularly by small-farmers, while safeguarding the interest of the poor consumer at the same time."

111. It was further stated that in November 1982, the Director-General of FAO decided to initiate a high-priority FAO study on price policies and other incentives conducive to increase food production and improved nutrition in developing countries. The joint ECA/FAO Agriculture Division was given the responsibility to carry out this study covering the African subregion. As the regional self-sufficiency ratio is particularly critical for cereals, the Joint Division decided to embark on cereal pricing study initially. The first one covering Kenya has so far been completed. This study is entitled "Agricultural Pricing Policies in Africa: the Kenya Experience".

112. The study made pertinent recommendations geared to increasing cereal production in Kenya. It indicated inter alia that: The pricing policy in Kenya could be singled out as one of the main factors affecting cereals production. Its effectiveness could be greatly increased if the following issues are resolved. First, the policy-makers should fully understand the role the pricing policy plays in the development of agriculture and expansion of food production. Prices have to be determined in a systematic and scientific manner, taking into consideration their effect not only on agricultural production, but on the whole economy. Secondly, to reconcile the multiplicity of the objectives which the agricultural pricing policy tends to pursue and minimize their conflict through ranking of the objectives and effecting implementation in a consistent manner. Thirdly, timely changes of prices and timely announcement are as important as appropriate price levels. Fourthly, prices alone are not enough to bring about the desired changes in agricultural production. A conducive atmosphere should be created through better marketing facilities, prevalence of competitive markets, satisfactory supporting services such as credit, storage, good information system, transport and existence of an atmosphere of confidence in the prevailing economic and political systems.

113. As a follow-up of the study, the meeting was informed that a number of government agencies in the subregion have already sent their comments on the study. Comments from the Kenyan Government were however still being awaited before the report could be finalized. During the discussions it was pointed out that the findings of this study had general applicability in many countries in Africa. Other countries will therefore also be covered.

114. The Kenyan delegate indicated that other studies on the subject have been undertaken in the country and the Government was busy studying their conclusions including those of the ECA study before giving their views which should be communicated to ECA soon.

(v) Progress report on the first ECA/FAO project analysis course for the Eastern and Southern Africa sub-region(Agenda Item 5 III(b)(v))

115. A representative of the secretariat introduced the report and stressed that the project emerged from the LPA, the Regional food plan for Africa, the 12th FAO Regional Conference of the African Ministers and ECA Report on the Evaluation of Programmes and Projects of African Inter-Governmental Organizations.

116. It was further stated that the project aimed at improving project analysis capability of member States in order to enhance their absorption capacities. This was to be achieved through the creation of a body of staff capable of dealing efficiently with all aspects of a project cycle, namely, identification, formulation, appraisal, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

117. In pursuance of the recommendation of the Sixth Meeting of the Lusaka MULPOC Conference of Ministers, the ECA Secretariat prepared a project document (submitted to the meeting) for possible funding. A number of donors have shown interest in the project but funds are still being awaited. Member countries were also urged, in the spirit of food self-sufficiency, to make some contribution, however modest, in order to convince the donors that the governments of the sub-region are serious in implementing this project.

118. The committee noted the report.

(vi) Institutional problems or small farmers (Agenda item 5 III(b)(vi)

119. In introducing this report a representative of the secretariat highlighted the importance of small farmers in the subregion and the lack of progress in their productivity. While several factors are responsible for the lack of progress in small farmer productivity, "weak agricultural support services" contributed greatly to this situation. It was reported that, based on experiences gained so far, "Pilot projects" would be further developed for implementation in selected countries of the subregion.

120. The Committee recommended that member States and financing organizations should give due emphasis and high priority to small-farmer development projects and the strengthening of agricultural institutions and other related support services. Considering that livestock and fisheries are important sub-sectors in this subregion, the meeting decided that, in future, the MULPOC should initiate programmes in these areas.

121. The Committee noted and endorsed the report.

IV. HUMAN RESOURCES PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND UTILIZATION (Agenda item 5 IV)

122. The secretariat in introducing this item pointed out that development efforts in African countries are hampered by the shortages of manpower, both in qualitative and quantitative terms. In spite of the vigorous efforts over the past twenty years to develop education and train as many nationals as possible, shortages of trained and skilled manpower continue to exist, and in some cases they are very much accentuated. Among the many reasons for this situation are the persistence of inappropriate educational and training programmes which are unrelated to the needs of national socio-economic development, and a lack of effective policies and machinery for human resources planning, development and utilization.

123. With a view to contributing to the solution of some of these problems, the primary objectives of this agenda item include assisting member States in reviewing educational and training policies and programmes in order to make them more relevant to national socio-economic needs; the development of delivery capability of training and educational institutions; and the development of policies, programmes and machinery for effective manpower and employment planning.

124. The reports that follow hereunder are an attempt to fulfill some of the primary objectives of programmes in human resources planning, development and utilization.

Progress report on the activities of ESAMI (agenda item 5 IV (a))

125. A representative of the ESAMI secretariat informed the meeting that ESAMI had continued to pursue its mission of performance improvement by organizing and conducting training programmes for public, parastatal, and the private sectors in different areas of management. During 1983, 21 countries of the subregion had sent more than 1,226 participants to ESAMI events. The meeting was further informed of the capabilities that ESAMI had acquired since June 1982 for training in export marketing and recommended that delegates and MULPOC countries recognise these capabilities and support ESAMI morally, financially and technically. Member States were urged to utilize ESAMI more while those countries that had yet to formally accede to the Agreement Establishing ESAMI should do so as soon as possible.

126. In the ensuing discussion, the ITC observer informed the meeting that ITC was very satisfied with the work already done and being done by ESAMI in the field of export training. He added that ITC fully supports ESAMI in its efforts and urged delegates to do the same. The ITC delegate further observed that ITC would like export training to be localized as much as possible at country level so as to deal effectively with national issues. ESAMI's role would then be to supplement and support such decentralized efforts. The issue was raised as to whether it was in order for ESAMI to urge MULPOC countries to recognize it as the best institutional framework for training in export marketing. This was in view of the decision of the 5th Council of Ministers in 1982 to establish a Subregional Centre for Export Training and Promotion.

127. The ESAMI observer informed the meeting that inadequate information had been largely responsible for the unfortunate decision and pointed out that ESAMI's present capabilities for handling the job that was envisaged by the Council of Ministers is already a fact which needs to be seriously considered before a whole new institution is established.

128. Because the ESAMI marketing activities were related to the reports on trade promotion due to be discussed later on in the agenda, the Chairman ruled that discussion on the demarcation of responsibilities between ESAMI and the proposed Nairobi Centre be postponed till then.

129. The meeting noted the Reports on ESAMI activities for the year 1983.

Report on Integrated Regional Training, Research and Advisory Programme for the Conservation and Management of African Wildlife (Agenda item 5 IV (b)(i))

130. In presenting document ECA/MULPOC Lusaka/VII/ 5(b)(i) the secretariat pointed out that at the last meeting it was stated that the Government of Tanzania had decided not to change the status of Mweka College into a regional institution but that the College would continue to admit students from other countries and the Governing Body would continue to have representatives from other countries. Since reporting in 1983, new developments had taken place so that ECA has been pursuing a dialogue with the Government of Tanzania on Mweka College serving the needs of the region.

131. A second important aspect in African wildlife was the publication of the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) Report of the United Nations which made pertinent recommendations for the development of high level manpower for African wildlife conservation and management. The report suggested that this could be done at five selected African universities on the patterns being proposed for Mweka College and Garua School as the two institutions did not have adequate capacity to cater for Africa's needs. An appeal was also made to African States to subscribe to the OAU African Convention of wildlife. The JIU report had been sent to all member States. The Secretariat also informed the meeting that no money was expected from UNDP as originally reported in 1983.

132. In the discussion that ensued concern was expressed on the long delay in reaching an agreement between ECA and the host country. ECA was then requested to explore the possibility of making use of other institutions for the development, conservation and management of wildlife in event of no agreement being reached with the Government of Tanzania in the near future. In this regard, Botswana offered the services of her wildlife institution for training by other countries in the subregion.

133. The meeting urged:

(i) member States to subscribe to the African Convention on wildlife;

(ii) member States to co-operate and collaborate with ECA, OAU, UN agencies and other international and non-governmental organizations in the implementation of the JIU report;

(iii) ECA to continue contact and dialogue with the Governments of Tanzania and Cameroon and, if need be, explore possibilities for utilizing other institutions if current efforts do not yield immediate results.

(iv) member States to accord high priority to the development of African wildlife including personnel development for the conservation and management of wildlife.

Report on the Subregional Graduate School of Management for Eastern and Southern Africa (Agenda Item 5(IV) b (ii))

134. In presenting document ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka/VII/5(b) (ii) a representative of the secretariat pointed out that the Faculty of Commerce at the University of Nairobi continued to serve as the subregional Graduate School of Management for Eastern and Southern Africa, though no fellowships were awarded for the 1983-84 academic year. This was because ECA had not been able to secure funds. The programme was therefore suffering from financial constraints.

135. Meanwhile ECA had called for an Expert Group meeting to consider among others:

(a) The nature and scope of the curricula and the possibility for shared specialization with other institutions within the subregion;

(b) Financing the school;

(c) Fellowships and criteria for admission of students;

(d) Staff development and the development of instructional and case study materials.

136. In respect of (a) above and considering the future demand in the field of management, there would be need for decentralization of the programme to other universities to cater for the needs of the subregion but with each national institute developing and specializing in one area of management discipline. During the discussion the question of duplication between the Graduate School and ESAMI was raised but the representatives of the secretariat and ESAMI explained that the two institutions were mutually exclusive and operated at two different levels since the Graduate School offered post-graduate MBA programme whereas ESAMI planned to start masters programme in the near future.

137. Member States within the Eastern and Southern Africa subregion were therefore urged to assist in the development of the subregional graduate school by:

(a) Providing fellowships to their nationals (graduate school) for study at the subregional graduate school of management;

(b) Explore possibilities with donor agencies and other organizations for sponsorship of nationals.

Report on the African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research, Nairobi (Agenda item 5 IV (b)(iii)

138. In presenting document ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka/VII/5(b)(iii) the secretariat pointed out that the report on the African Institute for Higher Technical Training and Research highlighted the modest achievements made in the last year. In terms of membership, one more country - Uganda - had acceeded to membership bringing the total to the legal minimum of 13. This meant that the Institute now existed as a legal entity.

139. With the modest resources at hand, the Institute had been able to mount the following training and research programmes.

Two training seminars were conducted during the period under review. The first, which lasted three months was on Environmental monitoring and measurement techniques. It was attended by twenty-three participants from eleven countries. The second training workshop which was organized in Kinshasa, Zaire, was run for francophone countries on Drinking Water Treatment and Waterworks Management. It lasted 9 weeks and was attended by 10 practising water engineers and technicians from four francophone countries.

140. The Institute's research activities was confined to the preparation of inputs to technical meetings on engineering, science and technology. The staff of the Institute participated in such meetings by preparing and delivering technical research papers on :

(i) Science, Technology and Education Research in Africa (Nairobi);
(ii) Industrial Energy Management and Alternative Sources of Energy (Lusaka);
(iii) Environmental Education and Training in the African Region (Nairobi).

Programme priority for this year and the next would concentrate on training for production in crucial areas of industry and priority product areas such as the construction of electric motors, cranes, pumps, transmitters, etc. The first

such activity was being planned for implementation within this subregion. A member Government had been approached to cooperate with ECA, the Institute and ARCEDEM to implement this first training activity. Also a training course would be organized in 1984 for 15 African technicians in foundry technology and maintenance in Cairo, in collaboration with UNIDO and the Government of Egypt.

141. So far, no African Government had been required to pay for the services offered by the Institute, yet only four Governments have paid part or all of their contribution to the Institute's budget. It was this situation more than any other that had constrained the Institute's delivery capacity. In this subregion, only Kenya, the host country, had made contribution to the Institute.

142. The meeting recommended that a support-seeking mission consisting of ECA and member countries be sent to all countries of the subregion later this year to collect more signatures to the constitution and payments to the Institute's budget. In the spirit of collective self-reliance it was incumbent on all African countries to support this genuinely African effort.

143. The paper was noted.

Report on the Development of Institutional Capability for Manpower Planning

(Agenda Item 5(IV) (c))

144. In presenting document ECA/MULPOC/LUSAKA/VII/5(c) the Secretariat pointed out that at the last MULPOC meeting, member States were requested, among other things to take stock of and appraise the status, effectiveness and adequacy of existing capabilities and machineries for human resources planning, determining the extent to which existing human resources stock was being appropriately assessed, developed and utilized, and determining priority areas and initiating measures for the establishments strengthening of the institutional structures, staffing and funding arrangements.

145. In pursuance of these priority areas, a second Conference of Ministers responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization was scheduled to take place in Cairo in January 1984, but was postponed to October 1984. The Ministerial Conference was to review, among other things, the various factors that have an impact on the development of human resources and to determine the strategy for integrating these factors into the process of human resources planning, development and utilization. A second aspect was the conduct of national orientation workshops on institutional capability development. The national orientation workshops reviewed the development of national manpower planning machineries and policy; the effectiveness, status and operational relationships between the various agencies dealing with human resources programmes and the state of manpower and employment planning data and information flow systems.

146. The national workshops constitute the first stage of a three-stage activities whereas the second stage follows the development of some programme support and commitment for manpower planning and would concentrate on the development of manpower planning skills while the third stage would deal with the training of high level manpower planners. As a follow-up to the second and third stages, arrangements were being made to operate an advanced training programme in human resources planning and management at the Institute of Development and Planning (IDEP) in Dakar, Senegal for senior manpower planners in the techniques of manpower planning, and the inter-relationship of manpower variables in other planning models starting the second half of 1984.

147. The meeting urged member States to:

(i) ensure participation in the forthcoming Conference of Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning Development and Utilization in Cairo, in October 1984;

(ii) hold consultations/discussions with the ECA/IDEP on the content, structure and implementation phase of the manpower planners training course at IDEP;

(iii) to continue to intensify efforts towards the development of human resources planning and institutional capabilities by organizing national workshops and/or seminars for both policy makers and technical personnel and;

(iv) assess national institutional arrangements for human resources planning, development and utilization.

Report on the Implementation of the Recommendations of the ECA/AAU Joint Conference of Vice-Chancellors, Presidents and Rectors of Institutions of Higher Learning in Africa on the Lagos Plan of Action (Agenda item 5 IV(d))

148. In presenting document ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka/VII/5(d), the secretariat pointed out that in 1983 priority had been given to the implementation of the recommendations on: popularizing the objectives and strategy on the Lagos Plan of Action; the production of textbooks, equipment and instructional materials; maximizing the use of educational resources; training opportunities for university teaching staff; and curricula and course development.

149. In pursuance of these recommendations, the secretariat informed the meeting that copies of the Lagos Plan of Action had been sent to most African Institutions of Higher Learning for use and reference by institutions and that a number of institutions had taken action in popularizing the Lagos Plan of Action. Steps in the production of textbooks had been taken through the establishment of a steering committee made up of representatives of Unesco, Association of African Universities, ECA, and OAU. Efforts were being made to obtain funds from agencies and international organizations for the production of textbooks and instructional materials.

150. The secretariat also pointed out that studies on "maximizing resources utilization in African institutions of higher learning "were conducted in respect of the Universities of Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) Zambia, Botswana, Malawi, Nairobi (Kenya) and Swaziland to determine the extent to which facilities were utilized and how they would cater for increased intake.

151. The secretariat appealed to member States to take advantage of the funds set up for staff development by the Association of African Universities and of ECA's education training programme in educational planning, educational administration, curriculum development and evaluation and teacher education.

152. The meeting was also informed that the Second Conference of Vice-Chancellors, Presidents and Rectors would be held at the University of Swaziland from 21-26 January 1985.

153. In the discussion that ensued, member States were:

(i) urged to examine the findings and recommendations of the study reports on maximizing the use of educational resources in higher institutions and where necessary commission similar studies in their respective countries;

(ii) asked to make use of ECA's training workshops in educational planning, educational administration, curriculum development and evaluation and teacher education;

(iii) make use of the inter-university co-operation fund set up by the AAU for university staff training and development and should make some efforts to contribute to the fund;

(iv) inform their institutions of higher learning about the forthcoming conference to be held in Swaziland in January 1985.

Progress report on the activities of the Southern Africa Labour Commission (SALC)
ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka/VII/5/(V)(a) (Agenda item 5(IV)(e))

154. A representative of the secretariat introduced document ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka/VII/5/(v)(a) which gave a brief historical background on the establishment, membership, aims and objectives of the Southern Africa Labour Commission. The Commission has held five meetings to date, and was due to hold its sixth meeting in Maputo, Mozambique in August 1984. It was hoped that, at this meeting, progress on the study of skill profiles of migrant workers, their restraining requirements and redeployment in their home economies would be appraised.

155. The meeting was further informed that a pilot project on the above study had been carried out in Lesotho. And it was hoped that, with the success of this pilot project, the comprehensive study will attract funds for its execution. With the assistance of SATEP/ILO, the Commission was optimistic of achieving its objective of reducing dependence of migrant workers on the Republic of South Africa.

156. The meeting was finally informed that the Commission had once again requested the Executive Secretary of ECA to continue rendering secretarial services to the commission. The meeting strongly supported this request and took note of the activities SALC was carrying out in Southern Africa.

Progress report on a study of skill profiles and manpower requirements in the field of Customs Administration in the Eastern and Southern Africa subregion
(Agenda item 5(IV)(f))

157. A representative of the secretariat introduced document ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka/VII/7(IV) and pointed out that this was an ongoing project and was being implemented in two phases:

Phase I: January - December, 1983

(a) An inventory of customs personnel currently operating in the subregions, their skill profiles and level of training;
(b) An assessment of both upgrading requirements for the existing customs personnel and additional requirement of personnel in the customs management cadre;
(c) An inventory of training facilities and programmes currently existing in the subregion for the development of customs personnel;
(d) Development of training programmes, workshops and seminars with a curriculum tailored to the ideals of the Preferential Trade Area Project.

Phase II: January - December 1984 (continuous)

(a) Mobilisation of funds and other manpower resources;
(b) Implementation of training programmes, workshops and seminars for customs administrators.

158. Due to financial and manpower constraints only three countries i.e. Zimbabwe, Kenya and Uganda were surveyed. There was an urgent need for more countries in the subregion to be surveyed so that proper analysis in the field of training customs administration personnel can be effected.

159. The meeting took note of the report and recommended that during 1984-85 an inventory of customs personnel operating in this subregion be completed and that an assessment of upgrading requirements for the existing customs personnel and any additional personnel requirements in customs administration be expedited.

Progress Report on the implementation of the project on Integration of Women in Development (Women's Programme) (Agenda item 5 IV(g) and Agenda Item 5 VII(c))

160. Under the item the Secretariat introduced document ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka/VII/7(v) and document ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka/VII/5(viii)(c), highlighting the project activities that were implemented and initiated during the period 1983/1984. The ECA/MULPOC Lusaka in collaboration with the ECA/ATRCW executed the following activities:

- Convening and organizing the third meeting of the subregional Committee on Integration of Women in Development, in Mbabane, Swaziland, 15-19 March 1983;
- Convening and organizing the fourth meeting of the African Regional Co-ordinating Committee on Integration of Women in Development, 11-13 April 1983;
- Co-organizing with FAO, a Subregional Seminar on fuelwood and energy development for African women, in Lusaka, Zambia, 18-23 April 1983;
- Initiating and monitoring a study (Evaluation) on follow-up action in implementing recommendations of a workshop co-sponsored and organised in 1981 by ECA, PAID (Kabwe, Zambia) and UNICEF;
- Organizing Internship/Fellowship Programme for a Women Manager and trainer at a Tie-Dye Project in Malawi, who participated at Training Programmes in Zambia;
- Undertaking Needs, Assessment Missions to four member States to inter alia, assist in identifying needs and sources of assistance, assist in developing projects and providing advisory services;
- Providing Advisory Services to a Pilot Project on Women in Health Development in Limulunga, Zambia;
- Monitoring Needs Identification Surveys in Comoros, Djibouti and Uganda;
- Initiating arrangements for three project activities, namely, a study on women's role in agriculture and rural development in Angola, studies on women under Apartheid and displaced Refugee Women; and arrangements for consultancy services on National Machinery for the advancement of women in Swaziland;
- Convening and organizing the fifth meeting of the Bureau of the Subregional Committee on Women in Development, in Lusaka, Zambia, 29 February - 1 March 1984.

161. The Secretariat outlined the major outcome and recommendations emanating from many of the above executed activities. Constraints that slow down progress and limit the impact of the Women's Programme were reiterated. In view of those constraints, a request was made to the Committee of Officials to propose the following recommendation to the Council of Ministers for adoption and implementation by member States, that:

- Member Countries should provide more support to women concern and programmes, in accordance with Resolution III of the 6th Meeting of the MULPOC Council of Ministers;
- Member States should expedite responses in the communications for arrangements of project activities;
- Member States should expedite responses in the communications for arrangements of project activities;
- Member countries should undertake follow-up action at Country level to ensure a multiplier effect and meaningful impact of the Subregional activities such as workshops;
- Member States holding Chairmanship of the Subregional Committee on Integration of Women in Development, should include the chairperson of the Subregional Committee in the delegations to the MULPOC policy organs meetings.

162. In the discussions that ensued, the meeting highly commended the secretariat for the satisfactory implementation of the Women's Programme. Member States were urged to pay special attention to women concerns and programmes considering that in most countries women play crucial roles in various aspects of the development process. Some countries reiterated their great recognition for the Women's concerns. For instance, as testimony, Zimbabwe has established a full Ministry for Women's Affairs and Community Development to accelerate the advancement of women. Furthermore, the meeting pledged full support to the Work Programme on Integration of Women in Development and to the proposal that a chairperson of the subregional committee should in future be included in delegations to MULPOC Meetings. The Kenyan delegation informed the meeting of the advanced work carried out in their country on fuel wood conservation and designing of improved cook stoves and stated that they were ready to share their experience in this field with other countries.

163. The ESAMI representative emphasized his Institution's great interest and concern in promoting the advancement of women. He informed and urged member States to take advantage of the ESAMI courses with emphasis on women issues, namely:

(i) Development Planning, Management and Women, An African Perspective (which is a Resident Course at ESAMI);

(ii) A Workshop on Women in Export Marketing: An African Perspective, to be organized jointly by ESAMI and ITC in September 1984;

(iii) Eight selected courses for which one woman will be sponsored by ESAMI in collaboration with ECA from each of the seven member States that will participate.

V. NATURAL RESOURCES

Progress Report on the Implementation of the Recommendations of the First Regional Conference on the Development and Utilization of Mineral Resources in Africa Agenda Item 5 V.(a)

164. The Committee of Officials was informed on progress made on the implementation of the decisions of the Sixth MULPOC Council of Ministers regarding the establishment of subregional mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of Arusha recommendations in the subregion. (ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka/VII/6 (a)).

165. The Committee of Officials noted: (a) that there had been slow progress in the flow of information from the countries to the secretariat and urged member States to endeavour to supply the secretariat with the needed information, and for the secretariat to obtain such information from the countries through field missions; (b) that the subregional committee on mineral resources had not been established but that the secretariat was consulting with other national and intergovernmental organs in the subregion with a view to having such a committee formed; and (c) that another progress report on the implementation of the decisions of the Sixth MULPOC Council of Ministers should be prepared for submission to the Eighth MULPOC Council of Ministers.

166. The Committee of Officials noted the report.

Progress report on the implementation of Resolution IV of the Sixth MULPOC Council of Ministers (Agenda item 5 V (b)

167. The Committee of Officials was informed that no improvement had been made by member States concerning the implementation of Resolution IV of the Sixth MULPOC Council of Ministers which called upon all the member States of the subregion to participate effectively in the operation of the Eastern and Southern African Mineral Resources Development Centre (ESAMRDC) (ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka/VII/6(b).

168. The Secretariat expressed the view that probably a period of one year since the last meeting might have been too short a period for member States to take the necessary action in response to this Resolution.

169. The Committee took note of the report.

Natural Resources (Agenda item 5 V (c-e)

170. In introducing the Natural Resources document on the implementation of resolutions adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Lusaka-based MULPOC in Mbabane, Kingdom of Swaziland 1983, the secretariat highlighted the limitations which hindered their full implementation.

171. As regards Section c of the report, on the appraisal of national cartographic institutions and the study on manpower requirements, the secretariat appealed to member States to complete and return the questionnaires which had been sent to them so as to assist in the preparation of the report. The meeting was assured that ECA will continue its efforts to see that the final report is published and made available to member States.

172. In connection with the report on assistance to Uganda, it was reported that some international assistance had been obtained through co-operation with the Regional Centre for Services in Surveying, Mapping and Remote Sensing located in Nairobi and that work had actually started in Uganda in implementing the African Doppler Observation Survey project (ADOS). It was hoped that the Government of Uganda would be able to take action on the resolution adopted at the Sixth meeting of the Council of Ministers, at Mbabane, Kingdom of Swaziland, in February 1983.

173. After the secretariat presented Section (e) of the same report which concerned assistance to the Republic of Mozambique in manpower needs in the field of Cartography, the Mozambican delegation expressed deep dissatisfaction at the lack of implementation of this project. He reiterated his earlier offer to assist the Secretariat in facilitating clearance procedures on the part of the Government of Mozambique so that a mission could visit Mozambique.

174. After explaining the circumstances which led to the lack of implementation of the project, the Secretariat assured Mozambique that the project would be put on the high priority list in the 1984 - 1985 programme.

175. The Committee of Officials took note of the combined report.

176. The meeting took note of the composite report and made the following recommendations :

(a) In the light of the renewed request from the Government of Mozambique, ECA must demonstrate its willingness to implement the project in accordance with the recommendation of the Sixth meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Lusaka-based MULPOC concerning assistance to the government of Mozambique in manpower needs in the field of Cartography.

(b) ECA should complete collection of data and publish the final report covering those countries in the subregion which will have been studied before the next regular meeting of the Council of Ministers of this MULPOC.

(c) ECA initiate positive actions to mobilize international assistance for Uganda to strengthen its national cartographic institutions; consult and closely join hands with the government in the search for international or external assistance.

Progress report on energy development in the subregion, Agenda item 5 V (f)

177. In presenting document ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka/VII/5(VI)(f) entitled "Subregional co-operation in the field of energy in Eastern and Southern African States (Lusaka-based MULPOC)", a representative of the Secretariat emphasized that the document reflected only an ideally desirable approach to the establishment of Intergovernmental Committee on Energy in all five MULPOCs (Lusaka-based MULPOC included). He pointed out that although the ECA secretariat has limited resources for the implementation of this programme, it can offer, at the request of the member States, the services of two highly qualified regional advisers in the energy field. The regular staff of the energy resources unit of the ECA secretariat are also prepared to assist member States. It was also pointed out that the Executive Secretary of ECA, Professor Adebayo Adedeji recently urged the secretariat to concentrate its efforts in the field of energy resources in the countries of Central, Eastern and Southern Africa and to co-ordinate the secretariats activity with the Lusaka-based MULPOC on country to country basis.

178. In view of the above, the secretariat gave a brief account of development in the field of energy in the ECA, and of energy development in the subregion by giving an overview of the programme implementation plan of ECA in the energy field with emphasis on the eastern and southern subregion. Last year ECA compiled a technical publication on the inventory and assessment of energy resources in Africa. The document entitled "Status of energy resources in Africa" is now available in the Natural Resources Division and it could be distributed at the request of the Member States of the subregion.

179. Also in 1983 the ECA secretariat organized a Study Tour in China concerning biomass, solar and mini-hydropower energy. The invitations were sent to all the member States but unfortunately 9 out of 51 proposed participants actually went to China and none of them was from the countries of Lusaka-based MULPOC.

180. For a number of years the ECA secretariat has undertaken the training of African specialists in solar energy in France. In 1982-1983 the representatives of Ethiopia and Uganda were trained in France and now the Energy Resources Unit is processing 15 applications from the member States in the subregion. However,

13 files out of the 15 were incomplete from Comoros, Malawi, Mauritius, Tanzania and Uganda and these files could not be sent to France. The delegations of these countries were requested to take note of this.

181. In view of the forthcoming developments in training of African specialists in energy in India, personal attention by delegates to future training programmes sponsored by the ECA secretariat was requested.

182. The meeting was advised that the ECA secretariat was in the process of establishing the African Regional Centre for Solar Energy (ARSCE). At present 19 African States were members of this Centre. Among the members of Lusaka-based MULPOC only four countries adhered to the constitution of the Centre: Angola, Djibouti, Uganda and Zambia. It was also pointed out that, since the development of solar energy is part and parcel of the overall development of new and renewable sources of energy in Africa, the ECA secretariat has established in its premises a Permanent Exhibition of solar energy equipment. Delegates were invited to this Centre for a short tour which could be organized at any convenient time. It was hoped that a tour like that could help delegates see various equipment installed there and assess the benefits of the utilization of solar energy in Africa.

183. The secretariat intended to send some of this equipment to subregions and organize exhibitions of this kind in the Lusaka MULPOC countries. This proposal might materialise soon in view of new equipment coming from France.

183(a) In conclusion, the secretariat informed the meeting that in the work programme of work for 1984-1985 the ECA Energy Unit was planning to issue a number of technical publications on the inventory and assessment of hydrocarbons, coal and new and renewable sources of energy for some member States of Lusaka-based MULPOC.

184. In the discussion that ensued various requests for assistance were made by delegates. They were advised to have competent officials in their respective governments make formal requests in writing to the ECA secretariat.

Development of water resources in Africa (Agenda Item 5.4 (g))

185. A representative of the secretariat, in introducing this subject, outlined the worsening situation in the African continent, in the field of water resources, since the United Nations Water Conference in Mar del Plata in 1977. The situation has been aggravated by world economic depression and natural disasters such as drought.

185(a) In spite of the importance of water development projects in relation to the economic and social benefits which they bring, the increased plans of funds to the water sector, called for by the Mar del Plata Action Plan has not materialized.

186. The secretariat presented a strategy of utilizing the MULPOCs, as focal points for subregional co-ordination of water resources activities, of establishing subregional intergovernmental committees at the professional level and of strengthening the ECA secretariat so that a water expert could be placed in each MULPOC. By co-ordinating the views of the member States through the intergovernmental committees, action could be taken collectively in calling for an increased plan of external funds.

187. Delegates sought clarification on whether a strengthening of the ECA secretariat in its water resources activities, as expressed in the text of the paper, implied a lessening of the responsibility of countries in the subregion to negotiate with bilateral and other donors. They expressed concern that this might impinge on the sovereignty of the States and impair the national programmes currently underway. Clarifications were also sought on how the proposals outlined would assist the countries in implementing more field programmes.

188. The meeting was assured that there was no intention to infringe on the right of governments to plan and to obtain finance for national water programmes. The aim was to assist in getting finance or national water programmes and to this end to assist member States in formulating concrete proposals, particularly through the placing of a water expert at the Lusaka-based MULPOC. Furthermore, this initial step towards regional co-ordination was designed to focus attention on the crisis situation in Africa and to solicit more financial support which would, in turn, lead to more field project implementation.

189. The meeting adopted the report and the recommendations.

Progress Report on the Implementation of the Implementation of the MULPOC Work Programme in the Fields of Trade, Monetary and Financial Co-operation IAgenda Item 5(vi) (a-f)

190. In introducing agenda item 5(vi) on trade promotion and after having proposed two amendments to the document ECA/MULPOC/LUSAKA/VII/5(i), the secretariat pointed out that the activities conducted under this item covered both trade, finance and monetary co-operation.

(a) Progress report on the Trade Activities of the PTA for ESAS (Agenda Item 5(vi) (a))

191. As part of its assistance in implementation of the PTA Treaty, the ECA/MULPOC secretariat carried out a number of activities in co-operation with the PTA secretariat and other institutions. The secretariat drew the attention of the meeting in particular to the Common List of products to be traded within the PTA member countries. The list had been completed and had been adopted by the PTA Authority at its December meeting held in Harare, Zimbabwe.

192. The secretariat also drew attention to the forthcoming June 1984 seminar on implementation of the treaty provisions on customs and trade. The seminar was intended for officials of member States, chambers of commerce and industry, importers, exporters and other transactors. In that connection, the secretariat made an urgent appeal to all States members of the PTA as well as potential member States to participate in such an important training and information seminar.

(b) Report on the establishment of an Agricultural Commodity Exchanges for Eastern and Southern African States (Agenda Item 5(vI) (b))

193. In introducing this item, the secretariat observed that, in line with the decisions of the Sixth Meeting of the MULPOC Council of Ministers, the additional studies and documents requested had been prepared by the secretariat. The draft charter memorandum of association and rules of procedure had duly been completed. However, owing to the technical nature of the subject, it was proposed that, on the one hand, marketing and market survey experts should examine the documents that would govern the agricultural commodity exchange and that, on the other hand, the meeting that had not been held in 1983 for lack of funds should be convened during the second half of 1984.

(c) Progress Report on the Establishment of the Trade Promotion Training Center of Eastern and Southern African States (Agenda item 5 VI(c))

194. A member of the secretariat introduced document ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka/V/5(I)(c), "Progress Report on the Establishment of the Eastern and Southern Africa Trade Promotion Training Center. It was recalled that the decision to convert the Nairobi-based Training Center into a subregional Training Center for the 18 countries of Eastern and Southern Africa was made by the Fourth Meeting of the Lusaka MULPOC Council of Ministers held in Maseru, Lesotho from 19 to 22 January 1981. The same decision was confirmed by the Council of Ministers at their meetings held in Lusaka, Zambia (17-25 March) and Mbabane, Swaziland (February 1983) and a mandate was subsequently given to ECA secretariat to convene a meeting of a Working Group including representatives of the Kenyan, Government, ESAMI (Eastern and Southern African Management Institute). ITC-UNCTAD/GATT, and ECA. The Working Group met in Nairobi, Kenya from 23 to 27 May, ITC-UNCTAD/GATT being absent. The Working Group examined the following documents:

(a) ESAMI's objectives and functions
(b) Outline of the objectives and functions of the Proposed Training Center
(c) Background rational for the establishment of the Center
(d) Budget proposals
(e) Draft agreement establishing the Nairobi-based Eastern and Southern Africa Trade Promotion Training Center

195. The Working Group concluded that there was no risk of overlapping between the activities of the Proposed Center and ESAMI since neither ESAMI's mandate nor its objectives and activities include Training in Trade Promotion and Marketing. ESAMI's present activities in Training in Trade Promotion were provisional and intended to meet the needs of member countries till the establishment of the Proposed Subregional Training Center. It was agreed at the Nairobi meeting that the Subregional Training Center should provide training in trade promotion

and marketing for middle level Executives while ESAMI will continue to provide training and consultancy in the fields of top executives level in preparation to relinquishing them to the Center.

196. It was further recommended that as the Proposed Nairobi-based Training Center built its own capability, it will plan to provide and embark upon training of top executives and ESAMI will then pahse out its training for top executives in the areas stated above in order to conform to its original mandate and functions.

197. A representative of ITC indicated that since the last MULPOC meeting, developments have occured with the effective establishment of the PTA which brought about new needs for specific training programmes related to the PTA operational requirements. He informed the meeting that ITC was in contact with the UNDP to secure funds for programmes of Trade Promotion for the PTA; he was of the view that training needs were better met in the Eastern and Southern African subregion by national programmes supported by national institutions and programmes implemented by related country groupings. Yet there was a need to organize training at the subregional level for needs which could not be met at the national and country groupings level. ESAMI was benefiting from ITC's technical assistance for the running of its Export Marketing Division which can cater for such kind of training needs.

198. The meeting recommended that a clear demarcation line should be drawn between the objectives and functions of ESAMI which should provide training in management as spelled out in its original mandate and the objectives and functions of the Proposed Nairobi-based Training Center which should provide training in Trade Promotion and Marketing and devise strategies for such a training.

(d) Report on the establishment of an Eastern and Southern Africa Trade and Development Bank (Agenda Item 5(VI) (d))

199. The secretariat recalled that the meeting of the Intergovernmental Team of Experts held in Lusaka 1983 had recommended, among other things, that the bank should be created by converting the East African Development Bank (EADB) into a subregional institution, subject to the agreement of Kenya, the United Republic of Tanzania and Uganda which currently owned EADB. While endorsing the recommendations of the Team of Experts, the PTA Council of Ministers meeting at Harare in December 1983 had felt that the SDR 800,000 capital stock was too high an amount. The Council had consequently decided that a fresh study should be undertaken to shed light on a number of problems including: The amount of capital stock and The up-dating of EADB's assets, and liabilities evaluation.

200. The ECA/MULPOC secretariat had undertaken forthwith the preparation of the study in co-operation with the PTA secretariat and other institutions. The group of experts designated for that purpose was currently preparing the study.

(e) Review of the implementation of the Lagos Plan of Action in the field of trade, monetary and financial co-operation in the Lusaka-based MULPOC area (Agenda Item 5(VI)(e))

201. The secretariat recalled that the idea was to see to what extent the provisions of the Lagos Plan of Action concerning trade and finance had been implemented in the subregion. All activities being carried out within the framework of the PTA and MULPOC were effectively in line with the overall implementation of the Plan.

(f) Report on the establishment of an Eastern and Southern African Clearing House (Agenda Item 5(VI) (f))

202. The secretariat recalled that following the acceptance of the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe to host the Clearing House, the Clearing and Payments sub-committee had worked out the operating modalities of the House. This had enabled the Clearing House to begin operations in February 1984. The secretariat also called on a member States of the PTA to conduct publicity campaigns to inform various

economic transactors.

203. Commenting on the report as a whole, some delegates found it regrettable that there had been some confusion between the activities of the PTA and those of the MULPOC. In its understanding, the report described not the activities of the MULPOC but rather, those of the PTA. The secretariat informed the meeting that in addition to the considerable assistance that the ECA/MULPOC provided to the PTA in areas as varied as customs co-operation, the establishment of the trade and development bank, the Clearing House and so on, there were some activities proper to the MULPOC such as the establishment of an Eastern and Southern African agricultural commodity exchange and the establishment of an Eastern and Southern African trade promotion and training centre. The secretariat duly took note of the Meeting's desire to have a report on those activities carried out by the MULPOC in future, and the activities of the PTA or other bodies only to the extent that MULPOC was assisting them or co-operating with them.

204. In answer to a question on the trade and development bank, the secretariat informed the meeting that the fresh study requested by the December 1983 meeting in Harare was being conducted and that missions had duly been conducted in certain countries. In response to a query as to whether countries non-members of the PTA could join the institution, the secretariat replied that this and other issues were now under study.

205. At the request of the meeting the secretariat informed the meeting about changes that had been made in the general secretariat of the PTA when the Heads of State and Government met in December 1983 at Harare, Zimbabwe whereby they decided to dismiss the then Secretary-General and appoint a Secretary-General ad interim.

206. The meeting took note of the report.

PADIS Report on Assistance by ECA to member States in the establishment of PADIS National Centre and of the Eastern and Southern African Documentation System (ESADIS)

(Agenda item 5 VI I)

2o7. Presenting the report on assistance by ECA to member States in the establishment of PADIS National Centres and the establishment of the Eastern and Southern African Documentation System (ESADIS) a representative of the secretariat enumerated the tasks that have been undertaken in the subregion. It axplained that with the direct assistance of IDRC (International Development Research Centre) and UNDP's financial support it has succeeded in laying ground for the establishment of an information centre in Botswana, which will start operation in the next few months. The secretariat noted also the finalization of tne project document for the creation of a national Information Centre in Ethiopia and expects the work to start before the end of 1984.

208. Regarding the PADIS participating centres in Kenya, Zimbabwe and Lesotho the secretariat reported that contacts have been established and are awaiting finalization. With regard to the establishment of a PADIS Centre in Somalia the Director of PADIS reported that he will be undertaking a mission there to finalize the project document. The secretariat also reported on the various training programmes on Documentation and Data Base Management that were organized in Addis Ababa and attended by 7 information specialists of three member States of the Subregion.

209. In response to a number of delegates who had stressed the need for PADIS to help establish and strengthen national centres as one of the highest foundation, the secretariat pointed out that the establishment of the Eastern and Southern African Documentation System (ESADIS) under the umbrella of the Lusaka based MULPOC, could play a major role in accelerating the establishment of national centres since it will be near the scene and therefore more sensitive to the needs and demands of the member States.

210. Answering questions raised by various delegates the secretariat explained in detail its problem vis-a-vis the UN procurement and other regulations tended to hinder the effectiveness of its operation as a project. It was also explained that although PADIS emphasizes automation it still plays an important role in promoting and strengthening manual information systems.

211. The delegate from Kenya reported that an information centre had been established in the country since one year. The director of PADIS welcomed the news and hoped that Kenya would inform him accordingly so that whatever assistance was required would be granted. The secretariat reported that PADIS has made its data base available to users and that index bulletins are being produced and distributed to member States.

212. The meeting took note of the report.

Special Projects (Agenda Item 5 VII):(a) Assistance to Liberation Movements (ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka/VII/5(viii)(a))

213 In presenting this document, a representative of the secretariat said that paragraph 3 of the paper should be read together with Document ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka/VII/5(viii)(b) concerning the economic strategy for post-Apartheid South Africa; paragraph 4 to be read with Document ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka/VII/V/(v)(e) concerning the Southern Africa Labour Commission; paragraph 5 to be read with Document ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka/VII/7(v) concerning the Integration of Women in Development, paragraph 12.3 dealing with women under Apartheid and Refugee problems. The rest of the report was self-explanatory dealing, as it did, with assistance given by the ECA to Liberation Movements in the fields of migratory labour, women, refugees, travel, training, fellowships to enable them to train skilled manpower to staff various sectors of their economies after independence.

214. The observer from the African National Congress (South Africa) drew attention to the danger political and military situation prevailing in Southern Africa which threatened to reverse the tide of African freedom, progress and development in the subregion as a whole. The A.N.C. would never succumb to that or acquiesce in white political domination and economic exploitation of the people of South Africa in particular and of the subregion in general. Further, he pledged continued A.N.C. support for the projects on Women (especially as 1984 was the "Year of the Women" in South Africa" and the project on the "Economic development strategy for Post-Apartheid South Africa". He urged that problems in the way of early implementation of this project should be resolved soon. On the project on "Economic Sanctions against South Africa" he said that the A.N.C. was not interested in it although they had no objection to countries that needed the assistance being given it.

215. The observer from the South-West People's Organization (SWAPO) gave a summary of the present political and economic situation in Namibia. He hoped that Namibia would soon be free to take its proper place amongst the member States of the MULPOC. Since most institutions and organizations in Namibia were being run by foreigners at present and since such people may leave Namibia on its

attainment of independence, it was essential for the Namibia Nationhood Programme to succeed in producing trained personnel to run the mines, industries, fisheries, centres of learning, railways, airways, etc. of an independent Namibia. For this reason SWAPO appreciated the fellowship and training programme of ECA. He appealed to member States to employ such trained Namibian personnel in their countries once they qualified because SWAPO could not employ them itself and because such employment would expose them to the practical application of the skills they had learnt in the books and so equip them better for efficient service in free Namibia. He thanked the Government of Socialist Ethiopia for the overall assistance rendered to SWAPO, especially for training SWAPO pilots.

216. The observer from the Pan-Africanist Congress of Azania (P.A.C.) confined himself to education. He said that as a result of Bantu education, standards of education among black South African students had fallen dramatically over the last two decades. Consequently these students had difficulty in fitting into the educational streams both at secondary school and university levels. Some countries (for example Tanzania and Kenya) had helped up-grade some of these students, but more needed to be done in this field by all other countries of the subregion if these young people are to be equipped to run free South Africa effectively.

217. The meeting pledged continued support for the Liberation Movements and decided that such pledge must be contained in a draft resolution to be submitted to the Council of Ministers for approval and adoption.

(b) Progress report on the implementation of studies on Economic Sanctions against South Africa and Economic Development Strategy for Post-Apartheid South Africa (Document ECA/MULPOC/Lusaka/VII/5(viii)(b))

218. A representative of the secretariat explained that, in adopting the project on helping to cushion South Africa's neighbours against the effects of economic sanctions imposed on South Africa, the MULPOC Council of Ministers had based its decision on UN General Assembly resolutions of December 1981, 1982 and 1983.

The project on Post-Apartheid South Africa was adopted in response to a request by the A.N.C. (S.A.). Regretably the UNDP, New York, had not yet reacted to the applications submitted to them on both items. Further action on the projects would depend on that awaited response.

219. The observer from the A.N.C. (S.A.) said early action should be taken to obtain a response from UNDP, New York, since they were anxious for work on the project to start without further delay. The A.N.C. had no real interest in the project on economic sanctions as such. In any case, much information on the topic was already available.

220. The Botswana delegation stated that Botswana had full information on how the country would be affected by economic sanctions against South Africa and did not need new studies to tell them that. What they needed was practical assistance to deal with the eventuality once it arose.

221. The Mozambique delegation stressed that the purpose of the sanctions project must be to secure practical assistance to South Africa's neighbours.

222. The meeting urged the secretariat to press for an early response from UNDP, New York, so that work on the two projects may commence as soon as possible.

Progress report on the committee established by the Sixth Meeting of the Council of Ministers on the co-ordination of the operations of PTA, SADCC and MULPOC
(Agenda Item 7)

223. In introducing this item, a representative of the Secretariat first read out paragraph 74 of the report of the Sixth meeting of the Council of Ministers held in Mbabane, Swaziland, 14-16 February 1983, which established a sub-committee consisting of Botswana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia (assisted by the Secretariats of ECA, PTA and SADCC) for the purpose of studying and making recommendations on ways and means by which the MULPOC may foster and intensify co-operation and co-ordination with and between PTA and SADCC. The sub-committee was to report to the Seventh meeting of the MULPOC Council of Ministers through the meeting of the officials.

224. Unfortunately, owing to various difficulties, the Secretariat was unable to convene meetings of the sub-committee during the year. The Secretariat informed the meeting that it had, however, done some preliminary work which would be presented to the sub-committee for consideration when it convened during 1984.

225. There was a long debate on whether the preliminary work referred to by the Secretariat should be considered or noted by the Committee. A number of delegations expressed themselves particularly strongly on the view that since the sub-committee of five countries referred to above had never met, such preliminary work as the secretariat may have prepared for the sub-committee, should not be entertained by the Committee. Such work had no standing before the Committee of the Whole since it had not come to it through the proper channels of the sub-committee of Five established by the Sixth Council of Ministers in February 1983. They urged that such material as was before the Committee should be withdrawn until it had been vetted and considered by the sub-committee of Five. Other delegations were, however, of the opinion that while the preliminary work done by the Secretariat had no official status as such and should have been brought to the attention of the sub-committee along with other background materials, and not to that of the Committee of officials, the Council of Ministers should be appraised of it.

226. After further debate, the Chariman ruled that the statement as made by the Secretariat would be reported to the Council of Ministers at their Seventh meeting of 12-14 March 1984. Thereupon the delegations of Botswana, Mozambique, Lesotho, Tanzania and Zimbabwe reserved their positions on the item. The delegation of Mozambique added that they were not satisfied with the manner in which the Chairman decided on a consensus on this item. The Chairman replied that as he had done throughout the proceedings of this meeting, he had determined the consensus not by counting heads but by assessing the general sense of the meeting after listening to various speakers.

Preparation for the Fifth meeting of the Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole and 19th session of the Commission and Tenth meeting of the Conference of Ministers, Conakry, Guinea, 16-30 April 1984: (Agenda Item 8)

227 In introducing this agenda item, the representative of the secretariat drew attention to the over-all economic and social crisis confronting Africa at the present time. The crisis was felt most actively in the fields of food and agriculture, resulting largely from the severe drought that much of Africa has experienced recently. The crisis was so acute that the ECA Executive Secretary, had in response to a resolution of the Eighteenth Session of the ECA Conference of Ministers, convened a Scientific Round Table on the Climatic Situation and Drought in Africa in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 20-23 February 1984 to consider a plan of action to deal with the emergency. The Secretary-General of the United Nations had himself undertaken a mission to eight West African countries in January/February 1984 in order to gain first hand experience of the problem. As a result he had established a regional Unit, with headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya, to deal with this multi-faceted problem. This would be a major agenda item before the 19th Session of the Commission to be held in Conakry, Guinea, 16-30 April 1984. The original agenda of the meeting had been amended to give sufficient time for this crisis to be discussed extensively and in depth at the meeting. For this reason member States were urged to ensure that they were adequately represented at the meeting so as to take stock of the overall economic crisis facing Africa and adopt appropriate measures to deal with it.

228. The attention of the meeting was also drawn to the draft agenda item relating to Reports of the annual meetings of the MULPOC under which the Chairman of the Committee of Officials and the Chairman of the Council of Ministers will be called upon to submit their reports respectively to ECA Technical Preparatory Committee of the Whole and the Conference of Ministers of ECA.

Any other business (Agenda item 9)

229. Under this item, one delegate requested that in future, accepted standard procedures of conducting meetings should be respected and that, once the secretariat has been assigned a mandate over certain functions, that mandate should not be modified. The meeting also endorsed the view that in future progress reports on the execution of the programme of work of the MULPOC should be prepared by the Secretariat on a half yearly basis instead of annually and sent to member States. In addition to these mid-term progress reports, the Secretariat should also, a month or so before the meetings of the MULPOC policy organs send another report to member States to enable them determine the composition of their delegations in the light of the work that will have effectively been carried out by them.